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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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10/763,811

01/23/2004

David Schuttler

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12/15/2005

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KHIEM M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/763,811

Applicant(s)

SCHUTTLER, DAVID

Examiner

Khiem Nguyen

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/21/05.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 16-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 8-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 16-20 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Upon further review, the previous office action is withdrawn due to an inadvertent office error; a new non-final office action is set forth below.

Election/Restrictions

2. Newly submitted claims 16-20 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: The method of coupling external wires to an uninterruptible power supply as recited in new claim 15 can be used to interconnect external wires to other electrical devices rather than the recited uninterruptible power supply.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 16-20 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art (APA) in view of Brown and Molus et al. (6,511,328).

The APA uninterruptible power supply as being discussed in the background of the present invention lacks the claimed terminal block and sockets connected to wires external and internal, respectively, of the power supply.

Brown discloses a terminal block 10 comprising a first portion 20 comprising a plurality of apertures 40 each for receiving at least one socket 26, and a second portion 22 comprising a plurality of stalls 76 each having an electrical port 52 positioned in each of the plurality of stalls, and at least one connector pin 50 positioned within one of the plurality of stalls to connect to the at least one socket through the aperture.

Molus et al. discloses that it is known to connect sockets 60 of his PLC to wires of cable 28.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to provide the APA uninterruptible power supply with the claimed terminal block and sockets connected to wires external and internal, respectively, of the power supply in view of the teachings of Brown and Molus et al. The use of terminal block and socket would provide for ease of connection of external and internal wires to the uninterruptible power supply.

Also as to claims 1 and 8, it is noted that the first portion 20 of Brown lacks a plurality of stalls. However, Brown already discloses that it is known to provide a plurality of stalls for his second portion 22. Therefore, it would have been obvious to provide a plurality of stalls for the sockets of the APA, since this only relate to a known design choice and obvious placement of parts.

2. Claims 2-3, 9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art (APA) in view of Brown and Molus et al. as applied to claims 1 and 8 above, and further in view of Bernat et al.

3. The Admitted Prior Art (APA) in view of Brown and Molus et al. discloses substantially the claimed invention except for sockets and pins that are float-connected

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to the first and second portions by float-connecting means. Bernat et al. discloses jack contacts 18 float-connected to a jack housing by float-connecting means. Therefore, it would have been obvious to provide sockets and pins that are float-connected to the first and second portions by float-connecting means for the terminal block of the APA in view of Brown and Molus et al. in view of the teaching of Bernat et al. which would allow for easier mating of the pins and sockets to each other.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 7 and 15 are allowed.

Response to Arguments


5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khiem Nguyen whose telephone number is 571 272-2096. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TC Patel can be reached on 571 272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Khiem Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839